

A GOTHIC READING LIST FOR LIBRARIANS & TEACHERS
(** denotes Southern Gothic titles)

I. GOTHIC HOUSES
(with dark curses and/or characters with dark secrets)

Classics

The Castle of Otranto by Horace Walpole (the father of all Gothic novels!)

Mysteries of Udolpho, by Ann Radcliffe

Jane Eyre, by Charlotte Bronte

Wuthering Heights, by Emily Bronte

The Woman in White, by Wilkie Collins

"The Fall of the House of Usher," by Edgar Allan Poe

The Picture of Dorian Gray, by Oscar Wilde

Rebecca, by Daphne du Maurier

"A Rose for Emily" by William Faulkner**!

Other Voices, Other Rooms, by Truman Capote**!

The Violent Bear it Away, by Flannery O'Connor**!

Bastard out of Carolina, by Dorothy Allison**!

Child of God, by Cormac McCarthy**!

<< ! Dark themes/content alert!

YA options:

Dark Companion, by Marta Acosta

The Casquette Girls, by Alys Arden**

Wake Unto Me, Lisa Cache

The Dark Unwinding (+ sequel), by Sharon Cameron

The Poisoned House, by Michael Ford

Beautiful Creatures (+ sequels), Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl**

Masque of the Red Death (+ sequels), by Bethany Griffin

The Fall, by Bethany Griffin

Ashes on the Waves, by Mary Lindsey

Set in Stone, by Linda Newbery

Strands of Bronze and Gold, by Jane Nickerson**

The Mirk and Midnight Hour, by Jane Nickerson**

Thorn Abbey, by Nancy Ohlin

Asylum, by Madeleine Roux

Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea, by April Genevieve Tucholke

In the Shadows, by Kiersten White & Jim Di Bartolo

Winter's Bone, by Daniel Woodrell**

Prophecy of the Sisters, Michelle Zink

MG options:

Long Lankin, by Lindsey Barraclough

Serafina and the Black Cloak, by Robert Beatty**

Tennyson, by Lesley Blume**

Warren the 13th and the All-seeing Eye, by Tania del Rio
The Visconti House, by Elsbeth Edgar
Cavendish Home for Boys and Girls, by Claire Legrand
The Dead End, by Mimi McCoy (See more in the “Poison Apple” series)
The Aviary, by Kathleen Odell
Uncle Montague’s Tales of Terror, by Chris Priestly (told in a Gothic house, but stories in this series cover all three categories; check all titles by Priestly)
The Book of Elsewhere: The Shadows, by Jacqueline West (More in this series)

GOTHIC MONSTERS

Classics:

Frankenstein, by Mary Shelley
Dracula, by Bram Stoker
Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, by Robert Louis Stevenson
The Island of Dr. Moreau, by H.G. Wells

YA Options:

The Coldest Girl in Coldtown, by Holly Black
The Diviners, by Libba Bray
Unspoken, by Sarah Rees Brennan
Clockwork Angel (Infernal Devices books), by Cassandra Clare
Servants of the Storm, by Delilah S. Dawson**
Unbreakable, by Kami Garcia (+ sequels)
Blood Magic, by Tessa Gratton**
Spellcaster, by Claudia Gray
Claire de Lune, by Christine Johnson
Twilight (+ sequels), by Stephanie Meyer
This Dark Endeavour (+ sequels), by Kenneth Opper
Beware the Wild, by Natalie Parker**
Sisters Red, by Jackson Pearce
Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children (+ sequels), by Ransom Riggs
Jackaby, by William Ritter (+ sequels)
Broken, by A.E. Rought
The Madman’s Daughter (+ sequels), by Megan Shepherd
Shiver (+ sequels), by Maggie Stiefvater
The Unnaturalists (+ sequel), by Tiffany Trent
The Monstrumologist (+ sequels), by Rick Yancey [!Note: 12yo protagonist, but added to YA list for high levels of gore]

MG Options:

Doll Bones, by Holly Black
Crooked Hills, by Cullen Bunn**
The Monsters of Morley Manor, by Bruce Coville

Coraline, by Neil Gaiman
Dead Boy, by Lauren Gate
Encyclopedia Horrifica, by Joshua Gee (reference)
A Monster Calls, by Patrick Ness
Splendors and Glooms, by Laura Amy Schlitz
Nightmares! by Jason Segel and Kirsten Miller
Monsterology: the Complete Book of Monstrous Beasts, by Dugald A. Steer (reference)
Charlie and the Grandmothers, by Katy Towell
Skary Childrin and the Carousel of Sorrow, by Katy Towell
Incorrigible Children of Ashton Place (+ sequels), by Maryrose Wood. (Humorous)

GOthic GHOSTS

Classics:

The Turn of the Screw, by Henry James (see ^^ for YA updates)
The Haunting of Hill House, by Shirley Jackson
The Shining, by Stephen King
The Woman in Black, by Susan Hill
Beloved, by Toni Morrison**!

YA options:

The Looking Glass, Jessica Arnold
Anna Dressed in Blood, Kendare Blake
Compulsion, by Martina Boone**
Texas Gothic, by Rosemary Clement-Moore**
Splendor Falls, by Rosemary Clement-Moore**
The House of Dead Maids, by Claire B. Dunkle
The Revenant, by Sonia Gensler**
The Dark Between, by Sonia Gensler
The Awakening (1st in Ghost Huntress series), by Marley Gibson**
Tighter, by Adele Griffin^^
Picture the Dead, by Adele Griffin and Lisa Brown
Haunting Violet, Alexandra Harvey
Hereafter (+sequels) by Tara Hudson**
The Everafter, by Amy Huntley
Beating Heart, A.M. Jenkins
The Name of the Star, by Maureen Johnson
Ruined, by Paula Morris**
Jade Green, by Phyliss Reynolds Naylor**
Fairy Tales for Wilde Girls, by Allyse Near
The Turning, by Francine Prose^^
In the Shadow of Blackbirds, by Cat Winters

MG options:

The Night Gardener, by Jonathan Auxier

Seer of Shadows, by Avi
Cold in Summer, by Tracy Barrett**
Spirit's Key, by Edith Cohn
The Graveyard Book, by Neil Gaiman
Ghostlight, by Sonia Gensler**
The Crossroads, by Chris Grabenstein
Wait Till Helen Comes, by Mary Downing Hahn (and all her ghost books!)
Constable & Toop, Gareth P. Jones
The Year of Shadows, by Claire Legrand
Breathe, Cliff McNish
Shadowed Summer, by Sandra Mitchell**
Ghosts I Have Been, by Richard Peck
A Drowned Maiden's Hair, by Laura Amy Schlitz
The Hunt for the Seventh, Christine Morton-Shaw
The Screaming Staircase (Lockwood & Co.), by Jonathan Stroud (+sequels)
Christina's Ghost, by Betty Ren Wright

GOTHIC for the little ones (picture books and early readers)

A Dark, Dark Tale, by Ruth Brown
Ghost's Hour, Spooks Hour, by Eve Bunting
There Was an Old Monster, by Rebecca Emberley
The Teeny, Tiny Woman (Step Into Reading), by Jane O'Connor
Jitterbug Jam, by Barbara Jean Hicks
Little Goblins Ten, by Pamela Jane
The Ghost of Nicholas Greebe, by Tony Johnston
All Hallow's ABC, by Jenni Kaye
Ghosts in the House! By Kazuno Kohara
The Dark at the Top of the Stairs, by Sam McBratney
Precious and the Boo Hag, by Patricia C. McKissack
I'm Coming to Get You! by Tony Ross
The Boy and the Ghost, by Robert D. San Souci
Abiyoyo, by Pete Seeger
Monster Goose, by Judy Sierra
The Witch's Child, by Arthur Yorinks
(list adapted from Oakland Public Library and The Monster Librarian)

My additions:

Leo, A Ghost Story, by Mac Barnett
Vampire Boy's Good Night, by Lisa Brown
One, Two . . . Boo!, by Kristen L. Depken
Ten Timid Ghosts, by Jennifer O'Connell
The Monster at the End of this Book, by Jon Stone.
The Night Before Halloween, by Natasha Wing